DOWNFALL

FINAL CHAPTER

SHE'D STARE AT YOU HARD, LIKE SOME SCRAWNY STRAY MOLLY. ONE LOOK INTO THOSE EYES AND IT WAS CLEAR THAT SHE WOULDN'T EVER OPEN UP TO ANYONE.

I USED TO DATE THIS GIRL BACK WHEN I WAS A NOVICE MANGA ARTIST. SHE WAS ONE YEAR MY JUNIOR AT COLLEGE.

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

DOWNFALL

CREATED BY INIO ASANO ◆ AND PRESENTED BY mangastream.com

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FUKA-SAWA.

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'LL BE STARTING A NEW SERIES IN MONTHLY YOUNG MAN?

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

WELL, THERE'S NO SET CONTRACT OR ANYTHING, SO THERE'S NO TELLING HOW LONG I'LL BE ABLE TO KEEP IT UP, BUT...

WOW, THAT'S AWESOME. SO THOSE STORY-BOARDS MADE IT THROUGH, HUH?

GOOD LUCK, MAN! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW IT TURNS OUT.

2

I DID. I READ IT.

AND I GET WHY SOMEONE WOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT A PRETENTIOUSLY NOUVEAU RAG LIKE THAT CAN MANAGE TO STAY IN PUB-LICATION.

THANKS, I GUESS...

SERIOUSLY THOUGH, THEY REALLY GROW FAST WHEN THEY'RE YOUNG, HUH?

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I STILL HAVEN'T READ THAT ONE-SHOT YOU DID A WHILE BACK.

WELL, UH...

NOT REALLY, NO.

SAY, FUKASAWA,

DO YOU HAVE ANY MANGA YOU REALLY LIKE, OR ANY AUTHORS THAT INFLU-ENCED YOU?

YEP. THAT'S WHAT I MEAN.

I BET YOU THINK JUST TRYING AS HARD AS YOU CAN TO BE DIFFERENT IS ENOUGH TO CARVE OUT AN IDENTITY FOR YOURSELF,

BUT YOU'RE JUST REHASHING FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME THINGS THE GREATS OF OLD DID LONG BEFORE YOU WERE EVEN BORN.

NO LOVE FOR THE ART FORM. NO RESPECT FOR THE ARTISTS.

I DOUBT YOU'VE EVER EVEN READ TEZUKA OR ISHINOMORI.

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

DON'T GIVE ME THAT. EVERY YOUNG, COCKY SHITHEAD MANGAKA LIKE HIM IS ANOTHER NAIL IN THE COFFIN OF THIS INDUSTRY.

I'M OUT HERE TO KILL THEM BEFORE THEY CAN KILL IT. PLAIN AND SIMPLE.

OH, COME ON, UEHARA. DON'T START UP WITH THAT SHIT AGAIN.

UEHARA REALLY LOST IT WITH ME, I GUESS. HE WASN'T HOLDING BACK AT AT ALL.

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

IF HE'S REALLY GOT SUCH STRONG FEELINGS AS AN AUTHOR, HE SHOULD LET HIS WORK SPEAK FOR HIM, BUT...

ALL HE DOES AT THE STUDIO IS GET INTO ARGUMENTS ABOUT MANGA KNOWLEDGE OR THEORY...

EVEN THOUGH HE HASN'T WORKED ON HIS OWN STUFF IN WHO KNOWS HOW LONG,

OF COURSE, THERE'S SOME AREAS IN WHICH I JUST CAN'T MATCH UP TO HIS EXPE-RIENCE,

BUT I DEFINITELY "LOVE" MANGA ENOUGH TO NOT BANDY ABOUT THAT TERM ITSELF.

I MEAN, I'VE LIVED AND BREATHED MANGA SINCE I WAS A KID, TOO,

AND ALL I EVER DO EVEN NOW IS JUST READ BOOKS.

NARROW-MINDED FANS WEARING ROSE-TINTED GLASSES ALL THE TIME ARE THE ONES KILLING MANGA.

AND YET NO ONE SEEMS TO GET IT...

THERE'S NO WAY NEW TALENT WILL EVER DEVELOP IN AN INDUSTRY

WHERE YOU HAVE TO FIRST GET RECOGNIZED BY THE GENER-ATIONS THAT PRECEDE YOU...

AT THE TIME, I WAS FRESHOUT OF COLLEGE, AND COULDN'T FIND MY FOOTING IN THE CUTTHROAT MANGA INDUSTRY.

I WAS DRIFTING ALONG IN QUIET DESPERATION.

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

AND SHE WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO SEE SOME VALUE IN MY WORK.

HEY,

ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?

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THE FACT THAT SHE'D RECOGNIZED, APPRECIATED ME WAS THE ONLY THING THAT KEPT ME GOING AT THE TIME.

I DO KNOW THAT IT ISN'T VERY FAIR FOR YOU TO TAKE OUT YOUR FRUSTRATION ON ME,

ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU COULDN'T ACTUALLY SAY ANY OF THIS TO HIM ON THE SPOT.

I DON'T KNOW VERY MUCH ABOUT MANGA, BUT...

BUT SHE WAS ALWAYS PISSED OFF ABOUT SOME MINOR, OBSCURE THING OR OTHER.

WELL,

YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, BUT...

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

SHE NEVER REALLY SMILED.

FUKASAWA, DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

...SORRY.

SOMETIMES, SHE'D WHISPER INCOMPREHENSIBLE RIDDLES TO HERSELF.

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

AND I WAS ALMOST AFRAID OF HER.

I KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE.

I KNOW, THOUGH.

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YOU ARE...

A MONSTER.

MANGA STREAM

HELLO. IT'S FUKASAWA

OH,

NO. DON'T GIVE ME THAT "PROBABLY." YOU'D BETTER.

YEAH, IT TURNS OUT I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET INTO THE OFFICE UNTIL LATE TONIGHT, SO...

FINISH UP THOSE 12 PAGES BY THEN, ALRIGHT?

LOOK, WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU THINK YOUR JOB IS?

DING-DONG

CAN I JUST GET YOUR SIGNATURE RIGHT HERE...

STARDUST CITY POLARIS 1
KAORU FUKASAWA
KAORU FUKASAWA,
OF "SAYOSUN" FAME,
BRINGS YOU HIS NEW WORK!
REPRINTS COMING SOON!
I HAVE WAITED FOREVER AT THE PLACE YOU AND I MADE THAT PROMISE.
TAKING SOCIAL MEDIA BY STORM! YUJI SAIYO, AUTHOR OF "YOUR SONG," LOVES IT!

深海黒先生
サイン

TODAY'S AUTO-GRAPH SESSION IS GOING TO BE LONG, BUT WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO WORK-ING WITH YOU!

FUKASAWA-SENSEI.

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

THANKS, GUYS.

HI. I'M TOKUMARU, FROM YOUNG MAN'S EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

OH, FUKASAWA-SENSEI,

THEY WERE SELLING IT DOWNSTAIRS. CAUGHT MY EYE.

SHE USED TO WORK UNDER ME, YOU KNOW.

WHERE'D YOU FIND THAT?

3月1日

小毬田マリ子は相当困っている

心配性の小毬田さんの

小毬田奈央

小異端な日々

THAT BOOK'S BEEN PRETTY POPULAR LATELY.

OH? TOMITA-SENSEI USED TO BE ONE OF YOUR STAFF?

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

YOUR LATEST VOLUME WAS ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL!

PEOPLE ARE SAYING ALL OVER THAT THEY CRIED AND STUFF.

HMM. SO THIS IS THE KIND OF STUFF THAT SELLS THESE DAYS.

NO, NO! YOUR STUFF IS SELLING MUCH BETTER, FUKASAWA! TRUST ME!

THAT'S GOOD.

I MADE SURE TO WRITE IT SO THAT EVEN IDIOTS WOULD CRY.

HAHA!

GENIUS!

I GUESS, FOR THE MANGA READERS OF TODAY,

THIS SORT OF FAWNING, UNCTUOUS FARE IS BEST.

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

WELL, WHO CARES.

IT'S JUST MANGA, AFTER ALL.

Kaoru Fukasawa @ Star-Pol Vol. 1 On Sale @fukasawa_kaoru

04/03

Star-Pol Vol. 1 on sale today! Grateful to bring this to you all. Thanks to staff and everyone for their work. See ya @ signing in Shinjuku!

⇦ 21 ⇆ 150 ♥ 285

星降る町のポラリス 刊行記念
深澤薫先生 サイン会

I'M A HUGE FAN OF RUI!

I CAN'T WAIT FOR MORE OF THIS SERIES!

UH...

Y... YES...

THANKS. I APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT.

HELLO.

NEXT, PLEASE!

MANGA STREAM .com DON'T MIRROR

UM, I... REPLY...

YOU'VE REPLIED TO ME ON TWITTER SO MANY TIMES, SENSEI, AND...

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

AKARI?

WAIT...

ER...

ENEVER I WAS FEELING DOWN, I'D READ SAYOSUN AND IT'D CHEER ME UP...

IT'S SAVED ME MORE TIMES THAN I CAN COUNT.

I'VE BEEN A HUGE FAN OF YOURS SINCE I WAS A TEENAGER, FUKASAWA-SENSEI...

TO BE HONEST, WHEN SAYOSUN, I WAS JUST SO SAD,

I DIDN'T THINK I COULD EVEN GO ON LIVING...

I KNOW WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE EVERYONE FROM SAYOSLIN AGAIN,

BUT YOUR KINDNESS AND SINCERITY REALLY CAME THROUGH SO CLEARLY.

BUT AFTER READING STAR-POL, I WAS JUST OVERCOME WITH SO MUCH EMOTION...

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

YOU'RE THE ONE THAT TAUGHT ME JUST HOW WONDERFUL MANGA CAN REALLY BE.

IF IT MEANS I'LL GET TO READ WONDERFUL MANGA LIKE THIS,

THEN I GUESS I'LL GO ON LIVING, IF ONLY FOR YOUR SAKE, SENSEI.

深澤薫先生 サイン会

SENSEI, YOU'RE MY GOD.

PLEASE, NEVER STOP WRITING.

SOB SOB

I JUST HAD TO TELL YOU THANK YOU IN PERSON TODAY, AND...

MANGA STREAM .com
DO NOT MIRROR

AAAHH... SENSEI...

I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU, FOREVER AND ALWAYS, SENSEI!

...WHA-?

MANGA STREAM
DO NOT REMOVE

MANGA STREAM

YOU'RE TALENTED.

I RESPECT YOU A LOT FOR THAT.

AND I FEAR YOU JUST ABOUT AS MUCH.

YOU'RE ALWAYS SERIOUS AND EARNEST WHEN IT COMES TO MANGA,

AND YOU FEEL THAT'S THE WAY YOU *SHOULD* BE.

YOU'RE SO CAUGHT UP IN YOURSELF, YOU BARELY HAVE TIME FOR ANOTHER'S FEELINGS.

ALWAYS UNKNOWINGLY HURTING AND BETRAYING THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.

AND THAT'S WHY YOU ALWAYS DO THIS.

FUKA-SAWA.

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT STEAL

AS LONG AS YOU MAKE MANGA,

AS LONG AS YOU REFUSE TO GIVE UP THAT DREAM,

YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE ANYONE HAPPY.

YOU WILL BE ALONE TILL THE DAY YOU DIE.

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

BECAUSE YOU TRULY BELIEVE

THAT MANGAKA ARE THE GREATEST PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET.

A BITING CHILL RACED DOWN MY SPINE.

SHE'D NEATLY PREDICTED THE COURSE MY ENTIRE LIFE WOULD GO ON TO TAKE.

I HAD THIS FEELING THAT, IN THOSE FEW WORDS,

EVEN SO,

I FELT AN ALMOST MURDEROUS RAGE COURSE THROUGH MY VEINS.

AT THAT MOMENT, I SHOULD HAVE MADE HER TAKE BACK THOSE WORDS. BY FORCE, EVEN.

YOU'LL NEVER STOP PUSHING FORWARD, WILL YOU?

WHAT SORT OF CRUEL FACE WAS I MAKING?

I WONDER. IN HER EYES,

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

MANGA STREAM.com
DO NOT MIRROR

THAT'S WHY, EVEN TODAY,
WHENEVER I MEET A GIRL
WITH A FELINE FACE, I
CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL
A LITTLE ON EDGE.

DOWNFALL —FIN—

浅野いにお

が到達した新境地……

単行本（全①巻）10月末頃発売予定